

# HEADTEACHER'S WEEKLY LETTER



## Ash Wednesday and Lent

The season of Lent began on Wednesday with Ash Wednesday.

There was an opportunity for both staff and pupils to come along to the Chapel and receive ashes on their forehead. We receive ashes on our foreheads as an outward sign of our repentance, turning away from sin, and turning back to God.

Lent is a time for reflection, penance, and transformation, a journey of conversion and renewal. A time to reflect on the choices we make in the way we live our lives and to seek forgiveness for where we have gone wrong.

It was wonderful to start the season of Lent with so many pupils and staff coming together.

## World Book Day

On Thursday, 6th March, St Wilfrid's was buzzing with literary excitement as pupils and staff came together to celebrate World Book Day!

The day was packed with book-themed activities, sparking creativity and a love for reading across the school. Tutor Time turned into a battle of bookish knowledge with a fun and challenging reading quiz. Aspiring writers put their storytelling skills to the test by entering exciting writing competitions, while budding artists brought stories to life through creative illustration activities in their art lessons.

World Book Day was a fantastic opportunity for pupils to immerse themselves in the joy of reading, storytelling, and artistic expression. A huge well done to everyone who took part—who knows, we may have discovered the next bestselling author or renowned illustrator among us!





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## Upcoming Events: Important Evenings for Year 9 & Year 11

We have two important events coming up for our Year 9 and Year 11 pupils and their families. These evenings will provide key information to help guide pupils through their next steps.

### Year 11 Information Evening – Monday, 10th March at 5 PM

This session will focus on essential revision strategies and exam preparation to support Year 11 students in achieving their best.

Families and pupils are encouraged to attend.

More details: [Year 11 Info](#)

### Year 9 Key Stage 4 Options Evening – Thursday, 13th March at 5 PM

Choosing GCSE options is a big step in your educational journey with us. This evening will provide pupils and families with guidance on subject choices, ensuring they make informed decisions for their future studies.

More details: [Year 9 Options Info](#)

We look forward to seeing as many pupils with their families as possible at these events.



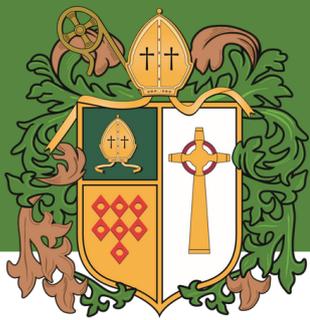
## National Careers Week: Supporting your child's future

National Careers Week is a fantastic opportunity for pupils to explore future career paths and gain valuable insights into the world of work. St Wilfrid's pupils have been participating in a range of career-related activities this week and will have the exciting opportunity to attend our careers event on Monday.

Families play a vital role in supporting our pupils' career journey. We would like to encourage conversations at home about aspirations, strengths, and opportunities. This might be discussing different industries, researching career options together, or attending virtual events.

For more information and useful resources, please visit our school website: [Careers](#).





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## Support for Families at Toby Henderson Autism Hub

The Toby Henderson Trust provides specialist support for families of autistic children and young people up to age 18, with no referral or formal diagnosis needed.

### Easter Open Day - Tuesday 8th April, 10am-2pm

A free drop-in event with Easter treats and craft activities. Meet the team, explore the resource libraries, and learn more about available support. No booking required. Location: Autism Hub, Gordon Street, South Shields

### Sibling Workshop - Wednesday 23rd April, 10am-2pm

A free workshop for children aged 8-17 who have an autistic sibling or a sibling going through diagnosis. A chance to connect with others and take part in activities designed to support and empower them. Limited places - to register, email [autismhub@ttht.co.uk](mailto:autismhub@ttht.co.uk) or call 0191 8160550.

These events are a great way for families to access support in a relaxed and welcoming space.

## Careers Event- Monday 10th March

On Monday, all pupils will be participating in an exciting careers event. We have visitors from local industry visiting to share information about careers in their sector.

This Careers Fayre will offer pupils a valuable opportunity to explore a range of career paths and engage with professionals from various industries. Representatives from local organisations, including South Tyneside Fire Service and HMRC, will be attending to provide insights into their professions and offer advice on potential career routes.

This event is a fantastic chance for attendees to ask questions, gain first-hand knowledge about different job roles, and discover pathways into employment, apprenticeships, or further education. Whether you're considering a career in public service, finance, or beyond, the fayre promises to be an informative and inspiring experience.



As we continue through this season of Lent, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support for our school community. Your encouragement and involvement play a vital role in the success and well-being of our pupils.

Lent is a time of reflection, growth, and renewal, and I hope it brings a sense of peace and purpose to you and your families. We look forward to the weeks ahead as we prepare for Easter and continue working together to support our young people in their learning and development.

Mrs C Lennox- Headteacher

